

Please do not mandate broadcast flags in Digital Television broadcasts. I am a citizen who enjoys movies, music, books and many other kinds of "content" that are produced and distributed through a wide variety of avenues. I look forward to the potential that digital television has to provide me with great content, crisp pictures and clear sound. I want to view content in this fashion, but I have no desire for that content to be limited to what is produced in Hollywood. I want to have the opportunity to view content that my friends and family create. I want the opportunity to create movies, music videos or art if I am so inclined. I also want to share my works with anyone who wants to see them in any way that is possible. I am Hollywood's audience and I am also potentially their competitor. I think this is as it should be. Please don't mandate this Hollywood inspired control mechanism. Broadcast flags have nothing to offer me. They protect the interests of Hollywood and restrict my freedoms and my right to fair use. They will also probably cost me money and minimize the choices I have in computer hardware, computer software, digital televisions, and recorders as well as many products that could potentially come to market if the markets are left to thrive. The FCC is a government organization charged with protecting our airwaves for the benefit of the public. Mandating broadcast flags and criminalizing the use of devices and software that does not obey these flags does nothing to benefit the public and much to hurt it. I use and greatly enjoy the use of Open Source software. I run Linux, Openoffice, the Gimp, and Mozilla. I look forward to learning to use many of the open source video and audio tools as I find time. Broadcast flags stand to hinder my ever becoming a video producer because they will likely render illegal the sale of high quality video capture cards. Please don't step on my rights to protect those of a small number of faceless corporations. I am a human being, I live and breathe, I think, feel and create. Corporations are legal entities and nothing more. Do not interfere with my freedom to protect the interests of legal entities. You are tasked with the job of protecting the airwaves for the citizens of this country. Corporations are not citizens. Do not act on their behalf. Act on mine. Thanks for your time.